प्रो० नौनिहाल सिंहः गांव का नाम है ....**(व्यवधान)**..

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्माः आप लिखकर भिजवा दीजिए, हम उसको दिखवा देंगे। मनमाने ढंग से नहीं, जो विभाग के मानदंड हैं उन्हीं के हिसाब से डाकखाने खोले जाते हैं।

प्रो० नौनिहाल सिंहः सर, माननीय मंत्री जी यह मापदंड जो है, वह अंग्रेजों के जमाने के है। परिवर्तन इतना जबरदस्त हो गया, आजादी हो गई, मगर मापदंड वही रहे हैं। बहुत से मैम्बरों ने कहा कि कुल एक लाख डाकखाने खोले गए हैं, जबकि आठ लाख गांव हैं और मापदंड बराबर वही बना हुआ है। कम से कम डिसकशन यह तो हो कि ज्यादा बढ़ाने का कोई प्रोग्राम है, कितनी तेजी से बढ़ाएंगे, जो गांव रह गए हैं उनमें कितनी जल्दी से डाकखाने या पोस्ट आफिस के ब्रांच खोले जाएंगे। जहां तक गांव का है, गांव का नाम है सोहजनारानी, तहसील - सियाना, डिस्ट्रिक्ट - बुलंदशहर। मैं आपको पत्र भी लिख दूंगा।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्माः ठीक है, श्रीमन्, दिखवा लेंगे, लेकिन इसको अंग्रेजों के काल से जोड़ने की हम आवश्यकता नहीं समझते हैं और इसलिए हमने पहले ही बता दिया था कि जब देश आजाद हुआ तो 23,344 डाकखाने थे और इस समय 1,53,001 हैं। वह अंग्रेजों के जमाने के मानदंड नहीं है।

प्रो० नौनिहाल सिंहः सर, मैं सिर्फ यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या क्राइटेरिया वही है, जो पहले था अंग्रेजों के जमाने में या आपने क्राइटेरिया बदला है?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The criterion has changed, of course.

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्माः सर, अभी सिर्फ यह हरियाणा के बारे में प्रश्न था। निश्चित जानकारी तो हमारे पास नहीं है, लेकिन अगर क्राइटेरिया बदला न होता, अंग्रेजों के जमाने वाला होता तो .....**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो० नौनिहाल सिंहः माननीय मंत्री जी, क्राइटेरिया नहीं बदला है। सिर्फ इसी बात की मैं तसल्ली चाहता हूं।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्माः यह हमारे पास सूचना आ गई है कि मानदंड स्वतंत्रता पूर्व काल के नहीं है, समय समय पर इन्हें बदला गया है।

*384. [The Questions (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel and Shrimati Anandiben Jethabhai Patel) were absent. For answer *vide* col. 30 infra.]

अफगानिस्तान से भारतीय मूल के लोगों का पलायन

*385. **प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्राः क्या विदेश** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) वर्ष 1990 में अफगानिस्तान में भारतीय मूल के कितने लोग थे;

(ख) पिछले छः वर्षों के दौरान अफगानिस्तान में गृह युद्ध के कारण भारतीय मूल के कितने लोगों को वहां से पलायन करना पड़ा;

(ग) तालिबान द्वारा कट्टर कानूनों को लागू करने से भारतीय मूल के लोगों के मानवाधिकारों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है; और

(घ) सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठा रही है?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) It is estimated that there were around 45,000 Afghan nationals of Indian origin in 1990.

(b) Around 10,650 Afghans of Indian origin have arrived in India since 1990.

(c) and (d) We have seen a press report stating that people of Indian origin have been subjected to harassment in the recent past and that some have left, but have not received any corroborative report on the subject from other sources. We remain vigilant and are prepared to extend all required assistance to Indian in Afghanstan.

प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्राः सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि 45000 अफगान नेशनल्स आफ इंडियन ओरिजन वहां पर थे, लेकिन कितने लोग थे जो वहां पर नौकरी करने के लिए भारत से गए थे या व्यापार करते थे और बाद में उनको भी वहां से निकाल दिया गया या भागने पर वे मजबूर हुए? यह तो नेशनल्स है, जो 10,650 आपने बताए हैं, जो भारत में आ गए हैं। कितने भारत में नहीं आए, दूसरे देशों में पलायन करने पर मजबूर हुए, कुछ और देशों में चले गए? इनकी कोई संख्या आपने नहीं बताई। क्या आप बता सकते हैं कि इस समय वहां पर कितने लोग

बाकी बचे हुए ह? कितने लोग वहां पर रह गए हैं, उसमें वह भी संख्या शामिल करके बताएं, जो इसमें शामिल नहीं अर्थात जो वहां पर भारत के लोग काम करने के लिए गए हुए थे और उनको वहां से निकलने पर मजबूर किया गया? मेरी जानकारी में वहां पर 90 प्रतिशत के करीब जो भारतीय थे, वे वहां से भागने पर मजबूर हुए और केवल 10 प्रतिशत रह गए हैं अब तालिबान ने, जो तालिबान के बारे में आपने कहा, उनका कन्वर्शन किया, रेप किए, उन्होंने भीषण अत्याचार भारतीय मूल के नागरिकों पर किए हैं, जिनके बारे में समाचार पत्रों में आया है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उनके विषय में आपकी क्या जानकारी है?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: In fact, two or three things have to be kept in mind. One, the number of people that I have mentioned, they were of Indian origin, but long back. I had the privilege of visiting Afghanistan in 1982, and I had the privilege of interacting with them. There were different types of periods in history when these people migrated that side. Some had gone even when the *Hindutva Raj* was there; some had gone when Puru Raj was there, the latest trend is for trade or for some thing. The number, i.e. 45,000 was a total of that. The people holding Indian passports numbered about 30, or 32 or 33, mostly out of the embassy. Therefore, they were not Indians in that sense, and that is why we are not aware when they came out and where they went.

We are only aware of the people who come to us, and that number I have given. The difficulty is that now we don't have any mission there, nor does any other country have a mission there except, perhaps, Pakistan. As the information available is very scanty, one has to depend upon what newspapers write, from time to time.

प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: सर, सारा संसार जानता है कि ताबिलान को पाकिस्तान और अमेरिका मदद दे रहे हैं और अमेरिका और पाकस्तान के कहन पर तालिबान वहां पर काम कर रहे हैं। क्या आपने पाकिस्तान या अमेरिकी सरकार से इस बारे में कोई बातचीत की है? भारतीय मूल के लोगों पर जो वहां पर अत्याचार हो रहे हैं, जो मानवाधिकारों का हनन् हो रहा है, जो महिलाओं पर अत्याचार हो रहे हैं, उन सबके बारे में आपने अमेरिका से या पाकिस्तान सरकार से यह ईश्यू टेक-अप किया है? मैंने आपसे कहा है कि भारतीय मूल के लोगों पर भीषण अत्याचार हुए हैं, उनके बारे में कोई आपने यू०एन०ओ० में सवाल उठाया है, कोई अमेरिका से सवाल उठाया है? आपने कहा है कि जो संभव सहायता होगी, हम देंगे। क्या संभव सहायता आप दे रहे हैं? क्या सहायता आप कर सकते हैं? न आपका मिशन है, न फारेन में, यू०एन०ओ० वगैरह में आप इस सवाल को उठा रहे हैं। तो मैं जानता चाहता हूं कि आप किस तरह से उनको सहायता पहुंचाएंगे?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, the point my hon. friend is missing is that Pakistan and America are supporting Taliban, but they both deny it. That is one difficulty. They deny that they are supporting them; which may not be true and it is not true. But the fact is this. Therefore, any approach through them to do something for these people is of no consequence. That is number one.

Number two: The number of people left there seems to be extremely small. Seems to be, I am saying that deliberately, becasue we don't have any direct information about this, and direct information was not possible because not only our Mission is not functioning, no other Mission is functioning. But, one piece of informatioin we have and that is through the UN Mission there. They tell us that about 600 people are in Jalalabad, and the information that they give us is that in Jalalabad the condition, they say, is not that concern-causing as it was, say in Kabul ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF VIJAY KUMAR MALHORTRA: I asked about the UN.

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल: अभी मैंने मेंशन किया कि जो यू० एन० मिशन काम कर रहा है अफगानिस्तान में, उनसे बातचीत की है।

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Have you taken any decision or not? *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: आपने क्या यू०एन०ओ० में सवाल उठाया है?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल: पहले मल्होत्रा जी के सवाल का जवाब देने दीजिए, फिर आप सवाल कीजिए।

I am replying to one question.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You are saying UN Mission, but I am talking of UNO... *(Interruptions)...*

I am talking of UNO, not of UN Mission in Afghanistan.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: The UN Mission, not in the sense of a mission, but UN representatives working in Kabul for a long time now; not posted there. But, they have been doing it because they want to have some sort of an understanding or peace in that region, which we support. We have taken up the issue with them and we have mentioned to them. The information they have given us, as I mentioned, they say, in Jalalabad there is some number, about 600 people, but, they say, in Jalalabad the condition is not that concern-causing as elsewhere.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, one of the things which touched me when I was there during the stressful months in 1978 was that on top of a hill, overlooking the city, there was a Hindu temple. I used to go to the main market.

They called it Chor Bazar; I do not know why. It was dominated by Hindus because Muslims could not take part in those transactions. Earlier Jews were in control. After the Jews, Hindus took over. I talked to many Hindus so long as I was there, for two months. They seemed to be quite happy. People were tolerant. A sizeable Hindu population fully integrated with the Afghans culturally and in other sense, whatever the religion. That was the scenario. Now, the problem I find, Sir, is that there was a chance, an opportunity which we missed. When I was there in 1978, a new regime had come, a very secular regime, and it was toppled later. Najibullah was overthrown by other forces. I am not sure whether the Government did enough to ensure that the secular regime continued in Afghanisatan. Now the Talibans are there I do not think you can do anything in terms of negotiating with them. You should never do that. What I suggest is this: The Government should try their best to ensure that the Talibans do not remain in occupation of Kabul for long and that a legitimate Government, a secular Government is formed, which will be in our interest. I would like to know from the Foreign Minister whether enough efforts will be made to ensure that this Government is toppled and a secular regim is installed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All order! *(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL. He was there in 1978 and I was there in 1982. Whatever he has observed about the scene there, I also said the same thing. Subsequently, I also wrote an article on this. It is very encouraging to see a secular society, any type of secular regime, that was prevailing there. So far as India is concerned, India does not recognise Taliban regime. India continues to recognise Rabbani regime. That is why our relations, whatever contracts we have, are with the Rabbani regime, at the moment functioning from Mazar-e-Sharief. And that contact we have. Whether we can remove, whether Taliban will come under or not, well, that is not my business. I am not going to interfere in the internal situation. But we are trying to assist, as far as we can to see that in Afghanistans peace comes and Afghans themselves decide what type of

regime they should have.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the plight of 32,000 Indians in Afghanistan is similar to the NRIs during the invasion of Kuwait. We know that the U.N. Humanitarian Relief Fund has compensated Indian nationals. May I know from the hon. Minister whether this case has been taken up by the Government with the U.N. Humanitarian Relief Fund to compensate them because they have lost all their business and livelihood in that country? Has the Government taken up strongly to see that they are compensated by the U.N. Humasnitarian Relief Fund?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I think, the context which my hon. friend has mentioned is, if I may use the word without any disrespect, 'quite far fetching' Kuwait was a situation of war, one country ran over the other and then what happened, I am not going to comment on that. The situation here is very different. Some sort of a civil war is going on, if I may use that word because, I think, Talibans are sponsored from outside the country. Some sort of militancy is trying to destablise the whole country. Therefore, for the U.N. to come and start compensating those who have come out, I think, at the moment, is not very right. I do hope that as the situation improves, a ligitimate Government comes to office—I am sorry, I must correct that, they are in office—and the legitimate Government will be able to assert more decisively and, perhaps, at that time we can think of compensation.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Part (a) of my question is this: Is the Minister or the External Affairs Ministry in touch with the International Red Cross to find out the position with regard to the people of Indian origin? Part (b) of my question is, a conference or a meeting was held in Iran to discuss the matter relating to Afghanistan and it was attended by the External Affairs Secretary also. Was the question of ill treatment or the said plight of the Indian nationals or the people of Indian origin taken up in that particular conference?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, twc confernces have been held—one was in Tehran and another United Nations-sponsored conference was in New York. The third was to be held in Peshawar to discuss precisely this type of issues. That conference was cancelled or postponed for the time being because Pakistan did not agree that India should be invited to that conference being held in Peshawar. We are now thinking or hoping that the third conference which is going to look at the humanitarin dimension of it, will be held soon. India has already taken interest in that and India will go there.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Have you received any report from the International Red Cross?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: The organisation which is looking after this is a UN organisation of refugees. At the moment 18,000 Afghans who are in India are registered with it. I am of the impression that they are getting stipend or whatever other things.

Telephones disconnected without Notice

*386. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many telephone connections are disconnected without ensuring the receipt of notices to the subscribers due to non-payment of bills which are not sent to them on their correct addresses especially in transfer cases;

(b) if so, whether some connections transferred from R.K. Puram to Vasant Vihar, have not been shown as transferred in official records and bills are being issued in the names of former subscribers even after lapse of 10 months with connections being disconnected without the congnizance of subscribers;

(c) if so, the details of such cases; and